

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1164

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Hixson High School's administration, staff, teachers, and students on the occasion of the school's 100th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those exemplary educational institutions that have made significant contributions, through an abiding commitment to excellence, to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, Hixson High School is most assuredly one such noteworthy institution that has provided innovative educational opportunities to the students of Hamilton County for the past 100 years; and

WHEREAS, a public school in Hixson, Hixson High School has a long and illustrious history dating back to 1883, when Ephriam and Margaret Hixson donated a small tract of land on Old Hixson Pike to the county for a school; by 1889 the community had erected a two-story white frame building on this property; and

WHEREAS, after the turn of the century, the student-body had outgrown the schoolhouse and, in 1906, plans were made to build a two-story brick school on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Rogers; constructed in 1908 at a cost of \$12,500, the school was the only place of study in the Hixson area offering high school work; and

WHEREAS, at that time, the school's three teachers and one principal served 100 children, forty-eight of whom were of high school age; these students commuted to Hixson either by foot, bicycle, or horse from Red Bank, Mountain Creek, Falling Water, Gann's, Miller's Grove, Gold Point, Fairview, and Daisy; and

WHEREAS, the construction of Chickamauga Dam in the 1930s and the DuPont Plant in the mid-1940s brought many families to the area, resulting in numerous school expansions and new facilities; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, Hamilton County formally welcomed Hixson High School in the form of the county's first circular and twin-domed building, offering all basic educational courses, as well as a wide variety of electives; and

WHEREAS, the move to this building heightened the desires of the school's alumni and local community to build a football stadium; it was completed in 1977; and

WHEREAS, in the 1980s, Hixson High School was recognized as a National School of Excellence, one of the first in Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS, throughout its storied history, the school, intertwined in the fabric of its community, has evolved from meeting the needs of a rural and agricultural community to that of a suburban population; and

WHEREAS, from its founding leader, G.M. Swingley, Hixson High School has been led by numerous distinguished individuals throughout its illustrious past, including J.T. Jones, R.W. Bohanan, Sam P. McConnell, S. Dean Peterson, I.K. Snyder, Thomas O. Dye, Robert A. McCabe, James A. Milburn, B.E. Edwards, Dr. Tom McCullough, Gerald Bailey, Angelo Napolitano, Steven N. McClure, Dr. Donald Swafford, and Eddie Gravitte, each of whom rendered sterling service as the school's principal; and

WHEREAS, Hixson High School is led currently by Principal Christine Couch and Assistant Principals, Christian Earl, Patty Lane, and Roger Vandergraff; throughout their tenures, they have worked assiduously to maintain the school's high educational standards; and

WHEREAS, as Hixson High School reaches the century mark, it continues to meet the educational needs and concerns of the twenty-first century; along with a continuum of past traditions and achievements, promoting academic excellence remains the school's top priority; and

WHEREAS, through the steadfast support of its faculty, community, and parents, and under the astute leadership of Principal Couch, Hixson High School continues to be a bastion of excellence in academics and in life, molding young minds into the scholars and leaders of tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, the members of this body find it appropriate to pause to recognize and celebrate the 100th anniversary of Hixson School; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate the Hixson High School's administration, staff, teachers, and students on the occasion of the school's 100th anniversary, commend their dedication to excellence in education, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.